

Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114-153).

By Mr. THUNE, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 1573. A bill to establish regional weather forecast offices, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114-154).

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1808. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a Northern Border threat analysis, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114-155).

By Mr. ISAKSON, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, with amendments:

S. 1082. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the removal or demotion of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs based on performance or misconduct, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 2181. A bill to provide guidance and priorities for Federal Government obligations in the event that the debt limit is reached; read the first time.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 2182. A bill to cut, cap, and balance the Federal budget; read the first time.

By Mr. KIRK (for himself, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. DONNELLY, Ms. AYOTTE, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 2183. A bill to reauthorize and reform the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and for other purposes; read the first time.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. UDALL):

S. Res. 288. A resolution commemorating October 22, 2015, as the 50th anniversary of the enactment of the Highway Beautification Act of 1965; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. TOOMEY):

S. Res. 289. A resolution designating the week beginning on October 18, 2015, as "National Chemistry Week"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 352

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 352, a bill to amend section 5000A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an additional religious exemption from the individual health coverage mandate, and for other purposes.

S. 356

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr.

SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 356, a bill to improve the provisions relating to the privacy of electronic communications.

S. 569

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 569, a bill to reauthorize the farm to school program, and for other purposes.

S. 579

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 579, a bill to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to strengthen the independence of the Inspectors General, and for other purposes.

S. 746

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 746, a bill to provide for the establishment of a Commission to Accelerate the End of Breast Cancer.

S. 885

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 885, a bill to direct the Architect of the Capitol to place in the United States Capitol a chair honoring American Prisoners of War/Missing in Action.

S. 928

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 928, a bill to reauthorize the World Trade Center Health Program and the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001, and for other purposes.

S. 960

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 960, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make improvements in the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program, and to provide for Social Security benefit protection.

S. 1375

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1375, a bill to designate as wilderness certain Federal portions of the red rock canyons of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin Deserts in the State of Utah for the benefit of present and future generations of people in the United States.

S. 1407

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1407, a bill to promote the development of renewable energy on public land, and for other purposes.

S. 1562

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Vermont

(Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1562, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform taxation of alcoholic beverages.

S. 1651

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1651, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 1784

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1784, a bill to require the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to be appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

S. 1822

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1822, a bill to take certain Federal land located in Tuolumne County, California, into trust for the benefit of the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians, and for other purposes.

S. 1831

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1831, a bill to revise section 48 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

S. 1876

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1876, a bill to rename the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking of the Department of State the Bureau to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons and to provide for an Assistant Secretary to head such Bureau, and for other purposes.

S. 1882

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1882, a bill to support the sustainable recovery and rebuilding of Nepal following the recent, devastating earthquakes near Kathmandu.

S. 1893

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1893, a bill to reauthorize and improve programs related to mental health and substance use disorders.

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1893, supra.

S. 2002

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were

added as cosponsors of S. 2002, a bill to strengthen our mental health system and improve public safety.

S. 2015

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2015, a bill to clarify the treatment of two or more employers as joint employers under the National Labor Relations Act.

S. 2119

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2119, a bill to provide for greater congressional oversight of Iran's nuclear program, and for other purposes.

S. 2134

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2134, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to provide educational assistance to certain former members of the Armed Forces for education and training as physician assistants of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to establish pay grades and require competitive pay for physician assistants of the Department, and for other purposes.

S. 2146

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2146, a bill to hold sanctuary jurisdictions accountable for defying Federal law, to increase penalties for individuals who illegally reenter the United States after being removed, and to provide liability protection for State and local law enforcement who cooperate with Federal law enforcement and for other purposes.

S. 2148

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2148, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prevent an increase in the Medicare part B premium and deductible in 2016.

S. CON. RES. 4

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 4, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 288—COMMEMORATING OCTOBER 22, 2015, AS THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENACTMENT OF THE HIGHWAY BEAUTIFICATION ACT OF 1965

Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. UDALL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

S. RES. 288

Whereas, on October 22, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Highway Beautification Act of 1965 (Public Law 89-285; 79 Stat. 1028), also known as "Lady Bird's Bill", "to protect the public investment in [public] highways, to promote the safety and recreational value of public travel, and to preserve natural beauty";

Whereas, earlier in 1965, President Johnson convened a White House Conference on Natural Beauty that recommended, among other things, certain highway beautification actions;

Whereas, at the signing of the Highway Beautification Act of 1965 (Public Law 89-285; 79 Stat. 1028), President Johnson stated: "This bill does not represent everything that we wanted. It does not represent what we need. It does not represent what the national interest requires. But it is a first step, and there will be other steps. For though we must crawl before we walk, we are going to walk.";

Whereas, since inception, the National Highway System has expanded to, as of October 2015, over 220,000 miles stretching across the United States; and

Whereas the national vision led by President Johnson and Lady Bird Johnson for a more beautiful highway system should be remembered and renewed; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the legacy and vision of President Lyndon B. Johnson and Lady Bird Johnson on the 50th anniversary of the enactment of the Highway Beautification Act of 1965 (Public Law 89-285; 79 Stat. 1028);

(2) commends the organizations, volunteers, and businesses that work to support the vision of a more beautiful United States;

(3) recognizes that beautiful highways and scenic byways—

(A) promote—

(i) economic development; and

(ii) national and international tourism; and

(B) reflect the best of the United States; and

(4) renews the previous commitment of the Senate to—

(A) protect the public investment in public highways;

(B) promote the safety and recreational value of public travel; and

(C) preserve the natural beauty of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 289—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 18, 2015, AS "NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK"

Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. TOOMEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 289

Whereas chemistry is the science of basic units of matter and, consequently, plays a role in every aspect of human life;

Whereas chemistry has broad applications, including food science, paints and coatings, water quality, energy, sustainability, medicine, and electronics;

Whereas the science of chemistry is vital to improving the quality of human life and plays an important role in addressing critical global challenges;

Whereas innovations in chemistry continue to spur economic growth and job creation and have applications for a wide range of industries;

Whereas National Chemistry Week is part of a broader vision to improve human life

through chemistry and to advance the chemistry enterprise and the practitioners of that enterprise for the benefit of communities and the environment;

Whereas the purpose of National Chemistry Week is to reach the public with educational messages about chemistry in order to foster greater understanding of and appreciation for the applications and benefits of chemistry;

Whereas National Chemistry Week strives to stimulate the interest of young people, including women and underrepresented groups, in enthusiastically studying science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and in pursuing science-related careers that lead to innovations and major scientific breakthroughs;

Whereas National Chemistry Week highlights many of the everyday uses of chemistry, including in food, dyes and pigments, plastics, soaps and detergents, health products, and energy technologies; and

Whereas students who participate in National Chemistry Week deserve recognition and support for their efforts: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning on October 18, 2015, as "National Chemistry Week";

(2) supports the goals of and welcomes the participants in the 28th annual National Chemistry Week;

(3) recognizes the need to promote the fields of science, including chemistry, technology, engineering, and mathematics and encourage youth to pursue careers in these fields; and

(4) commends the American Chemical Society and the partners of that society for organizing and convening events and activities surrounding National Chemistry Week each year.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2712. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 754, to improve cybersecurity in the United States through enhanced sharing of information about cybersecurity threats, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2712. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 754, to improve cybersecurity in the United States through enhanced sharing of information about cybersecurity threats, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . FEDERAL COMPUTER SECURITY.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED AGENCY.—The term "covered agency" means an agency that operates a Federal computer system that provides access to classified information or personally identifiable information.

(2) LOGICAL ACCESS CONTROL.—The term "logical access control" means a process of granting or denying specific requests to obtain and use information and related information processing services.

(3) MULTI-FACTOR LOGICAL ACCESS CONTROLS.—The term "multi-factor logical access controls" means a set of not less than 2 of the following logical access controls:

(A) Information that is known to the user, such as a password or personal identification number.